

EC-2899. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Process for Exempting Quarantine and Preshipment Applications of Methyl Bromide" (FRL7014-5) received on July 13, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2900. A communication from the Director of the Office of Personnel Policy, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination confirmed for the position of Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs, received on July 11, 2001; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-2901. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs (Management), Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "25 CFR Part 11, Law and Order on Indian Reservations" (RIN1076-AE19) received on July 13, 2001; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2001, the following reports of committees were submitted on July 13, 2001:

By Mrs. MURRAY, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 1178. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 107-38).

By Mr. REID, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Report to accompany S. 1171, An original bill making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 107-39).

By Mr. BYRD, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2002." (Rept. No. 107-40).

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES RECEIVED DURING RECESS

The following reports of committees were submitted on July 16, 2001:

By Mr. BIDEN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 180: A bill to facilitate famine relief efforts and a comprehensive solution to the war in Sudan.

S. 494: A bill to provide for a transition to democracy and to promote economic recovery in Zimbabwe.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 1179. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to ensure an adequate level of commodity purchases under the school lunch program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. EDWARDS:

S. 1180. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility

of designating the International Civil Rights Center and Museum in the State of North Carolina as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. BAYH):

S. 1181. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2719 South Webster Street in Kokomo, Indiana, as the "Elwood Haynes "Bud" Hillis Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. HOLLINGS:

S. 1182. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Army to lease land at the Richard B. Russell Dam and Lake Project, South Carolina, to the South Carolina Department of Commerce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1183. A bill to authorize the modification of a pump station intake structure and discharge line of the Fort Fairfield, Maine, flood control project at full Federal expense; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mr. BYRD):

S. Res. 134. A resolution authorizing that the Senate office of Senator John D. Rockefeller IV be used to collect donations of clothing from July 13, 2001, until July 20, 2001, from concerned Members of Congress and staff to assist the West Virginia families suffering from the recent disaster of flooding and storms; considered and agreed to.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS, THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2001

By Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself and Mr. CARPER):

S. 1176. A bill to strengthen research conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation with my friend and colleague, Senator CARPER, which will strengthen the use of science at the Environmental Protection Agency. By improving science at the Agency, we will be improving the framework of our regulatory decisions. It is important that these regulations be effective, not onerous and inefficient. To make government regulations efficient, they must be based on a solid foundation of scientific understanding and data.

Last year, the National Research Council released a report, "Strengthening Science at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Research Management and Peer Review Practices" which outlined current practices at the EPA and made recommendations for improving science within the agency. The bill we are introducing today, the "Environmental Research En-

hancement Act," builds on the NRC report.

When the Environmental Protection Agency was created in 1970 by President Nixon, its mission was set to protect human health and safeguard the environment. In the 1960s, it had become increasingly clear that "we needed to know more about the total environment—land, water, and air." The EPA was part of President Nixon's reorganizational efforts to effectively ensure the protection, development and enhancement of the total environment.

For the EPA to reach this mission, establishing rules and priorities for clean land, air and water require a fundamental understanding of the science behind the real and potential threats to public health and the environment. Unfortunately, many institutions, citizens and groups believe that science has not always played a significant role in the decision-making process at the EPA.

In NRC's report last year, it was concluded that, while the use of sound science is one of the Environmental Protection Agency's goals, the EPA needs to change its current structure to allow science to play a more significant role in decisions made by the Administrator.

The legislation we are introducing today looks to address those shortcomings at the EPA by implementing portions of the report that require congressional authorization.

Under our bill, a new position, Deputy Administrator for Science and Technology will be established at the EPA. This individual will oversee the Office of Research and Development; the Environmental Information Agency; the Science Advisory board; the Science Policy Council; and the scientific and technical activities in the regulatory program at the EPA. This new position is equal in rank to the current Deputy Administrator and would report directly to the Administrator. The new Deputy would be responsible for coordinating scientific research and application between the scientific and regulatory arms of the Agency. This will ensure that sound science is the basis for regulatory decisions. The new Deputy's focus on science could also change how environmental decisions are made.

Additionally, the Assistant Administrator for Research and Development, currently the top science job at the EPA, will be appointed for 6 years versus the current 4 years political appointment. Historically, this position is recognized to be one of the EPA's weakest and most transient administrative positions according to NRC's report, even though in my view, the position addresses some of the Agency's more important topics. By lengthening the term of this Assistant Administrator position and removing it from the realm of politics, I believe there will be more continuity in the scientific work of the Agency across administrations and allow the Assistant